

**Town of Camden
Regular Town Council Meeting
Camden Municipal Building
November 6, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor King called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and noticed that this regular Council Meeting was being held in compliance with the Delaware Open Public Meeting Act by posting the agenda on October 30, 2017, in the following manner:

- a. The electronic sign,
- b. The Official Bulletin Board, and
- c. The official Town of Camden Web Site.

Vice-Mayor Schock led attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor King led a moment of silence.

Council Attending: Mayor King, Vice-Mayor Schock, Councilman Dougherty, Councilwoman Torres, and Councilman Findley.

Absent: None.

Staff Attending: Town Manager Aaron Chaffinch, Chief William Bryson, Town Clerk Jamie Fenske, CFO Tom Josiah, and Account Specialist Amanda Marlow.

AMENDMENTS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Hall will be closed November 10th in observance of Veteran's Day.
Town Hall will be closed November 23rd and 24th in observance of Thanksgiving.

Mayor King announced that Caroling in Camden will be December 1st from 6:30 until 8pm at Camden Town Hall.

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilwoman Torres, seconded by Councilman Dougherty, to approve the October 2, 2017 regular meeting minutes. All in favor; none opposed.

PRESENTATION

Camden Wyoming Fire Department

Mayor King thanked Mr. Dear for inviting everyone last month to the Wreaths Across America event that will be held at the Camden Wyoming Fire Department on Thursday, December 14th from 11am until 1pm.

Mayor King presented a \$500 donation to the Camden Wyoming Fire Department to help support the Wreaths Across America event.

FINANCE REPORT

Mr. Josiah explained that documents have been uploaded for the auditors and the auditors should be in next month to start the audit on site.

Councilman Dougherty questioned why some of the line items have already been exceeded.

Mrs. Marlow explained that some things like the generator and elevator are all paid up front in the beginning of the fiscal year.

Councilman Dougherty stated that he would like to make a onetime principal payment of \$50,000 on the mortgage.

Mayor King thanked Councilman Dougherty for his suggestion and agreed that he thinks it is a good idea to help save money on interest.

Mayor King asked to have mortgage pay down put as new business on the December Council Meeting agenda.

Mrs. Marlow explained that the delinquent tax balance in November 2013 was approximately \$150,000 and this month it is \$53,800.

Mayor King thanked the staff for their proactive efforts on helping the town collect balances due to us.

CAMDEN WYOMING FIRE DEPARTMENT

Jim Queen reminded everyone that this year the Camden Wyoming Fire Department has been chosen to host the Wreaths across America event on December 14th, 2017.

Mayor King thanked Mr. Queen for his report and asked him and the entire Camden Wyoming Fire Department to stay safe.

CAMDEN WYOMING SEWER & WATER AUTHORITY

None.

FRIENDS OF HISTORIC CAMDEN

None.

VFW

Mrs. Christina Chidester, Senior Vice Commander, explained that the movie night was very well received. She added that they are still looking for nominations for firefighter and police officer of the year. She also explained that she will be at the post on November 17th from 12-1:30pm collecting items for the clothing drive.

Mayor King thanked Mrs. Chidester and the VFW post for their willingness to help at our Caroling in Camden event coming up on December 1st.

POLICE REPORT

Chief Bryson gave a report that included but was not limited to traffic arrests and criminal activity. He advised the residents to be mindful of scams and advised people that a police department will never call and ask for money over the phone.

TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Chaffinch reported the RETT check for September was \$22,117. He added that he, Amanda, and Jamie worked Rider Pride Day, and we provided zoning maps for our residents to view and a short survey regarding our Comprehensive Plan Update.

MAYOR

Mayor King thanked Chief Bryson for responding quickly to his complaint. He thanked Jamie, Amanda, and Patrolman Buchwald for doing the safe trick or treating in Dover on October 27th. He also thanked the staff for being so productive on collecting the delinquent tax balances.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Comcast franchise agreement

Mr. Chaffinch explained that the original agreement was signed for 15 years and is due to expire in December 2018. He added that if Mayor and Council sign a new agreement it will be for 10 years and will expire November 30, 2028. He explained that if Mayor and Council sign before

the end of 2017 then Comcast will give an additional \$1000 community grant to the Town of Camden.

Mr. Chaffinch stated that if Mayor and Council would like Mr. Comer is willing to come to the December 4th council meeting.

Mr. Chaffinch added that even if this franchise is signed with Comcast that does not prevent other companies from coming into Camden incorporated limits.

Mayor King stated that he would like to have Mr. Comer come to the December 4th council meeting to explain that this does not restrict other businesses from coming into the incorporated limits of Camden.

Chief Bryson added that with this franchise agreement Comcast is to offer the town and the schools free service.

Walmart Drive ADA Compliant Curb Ramps – RFP 2017-001

Mr. Chaffinch stated that only one bid was received. The bid was for \$13,000 from HT Masonry. He added that they are the contractors that did the ADA compliant curb ramps last year for the town.

Mr. Chaffinch gave his recommendation to approve the bid for \$13,000 from HT Masonry.

A motion was made by Councilman Dougherty, seconded by Councilman Findley, to approve HT Masonry LLC to do the ADA Compliant Curb Ramps on Walmart Drive for \$13,000. Roll call;

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Shock – yes

Councilman Dougherty – yes

Councilwoman Torres – yes

Councilman Findley – yes

All in favor; motion carries.

Walmart Drive Street Repair Bid RFP 2017-002

Mr. Chaffinch explained that there was a mandatory bid that only three contractors were present for. All three of those contractors submitted bids for the project. He detailed that George and Lynch provided a bid for \$159,600, Delmarva Paving's bid was \$149,378, and Ralph Cahall and Son's bid was \$138,534.43.

Chief Bryson stated that Ralph Cahall and Son have an outstanding reputation.

Mr. Chaffinch made a recommendation to approve Ralph Cahall and Son for the Walmart Drive Street repaving project.

Mr. Chaffinch added that not all of both projects are currently covered by CTF but he is going to reach out to Senator Buschweller and Representative Yearick to see if they would be willing to cover the difference.

Councilman Dougherty questioned if prevailing wages are necessary for these jobs.

Mr. Chaffinch replied that the town is exempt from prevailing wages.

A motion was made by Vice-Mayor Schock, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to approve Ralph Cahall and Son to do the street repaving on Walmart Drive for \$138,534.43. Roll call;

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Shock – yes

Councilman Dougherty – yes

Councilwoman Torres – yes

Councilman Findley – yes

All in favor; motion carries.

Police Department vehicle

Chief Bryson explained that it has already been worked into the current budget to purchase 2 new police vehicles this year. He added to purchase and fit out each vehicle it would cost approximately \$56,750.

Mayor King stated that this will be the first one purchased of the two that were budgeted for this fiscal year.

Chief Bryson added that once both of these Tahoes are purchased then he will get rid of the 3 crown vics and all that will be left are Tahoes and Ford Explorers.

A motion was made by Councilman Findley, seconded by Councilwoman Torres, to approve the purchase of one 2018 Tahoe from IG Burton, for the total amount including fit out being \$56,750.

Roll call;

Mayor King – yes

Vice-Mayor Shock – yes

Councilman Dougherty – yes

Councilwoman Torres – yes

Councilman Findley – yes

All in favor; motion carries.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dave Bright – Bright Investments, stated that he is still moving forward with purchasing the property at 28 Peach Street. He added that he has paid the delinquent taxes that were owed on the property and that once he obtains ownership he will move forward with demolition.

John Fifer – explained that he is looking further into the 5% increase given to the CWSWA employees.

Pat Kelly – stated that he saw some other police departments have bullet proof glass in their police department vehicles and wanted to share the idea with Chief Bryson.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor King thanked the staff and all of the donors that have participated in the Turkey Drive this year.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made at 8:30pm by Vice-Mayor Schock, seconded by Councilman Findley, to adjourn the council meeting. All in favor; none opposed.

*Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Fenske, Town Clerk*